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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A receipt management article of manufacture comprising: a <u>computer</u> storage medium configured to store receipt data from multiple disparate vendors;

communications logic for establishing a communicative link between the system and receipt data processing logic disposed within individual ones of said multiple disparate vendors; and,

a receipt management processor programmed to moderate access to said storage medium, wherein said storage medium further comprises a configuration for indexing said store receipt data according to at least one of a vendor identifier and a transaction identifier;

security and authentication logic programmed to secure access to said receipt data through at least one of encryption, password protection and certificate validation and authentication.

Claims 2-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for electronic receipt management comprising the steps of:

establishing a communicative link between a data store of electronic receipts from multiple disparate vendors, and an individual one of said multiple disparate vendors; authenticating said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors;

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locating a specific electronic receipt stored within said data store which corresponds to an identifier provided by said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors; and,

transmitting said located specific electronic receipt to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors over said established communicative link, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of inserting a portable storage medium containing said data store into a reader coupled to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.

Claims 10-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-readable medium</u> machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer-readable instructions program for electronic receipt management, the computer <u>-readable instructions</u> program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing a <u>computer system</u> the machine to perform the steps of:

establishing a communicative link between a data store of electronic receipts from multiple disparate vendors, and an individual one of said multiple disparate vendors; authenticating said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors;

locating a specific electronic receipt stored within said data store which corresponds to an identifier provided by said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors; and,

transmitting said located specific electronic receipt to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors over said established communicative link, wherein said establishing step comprises the step of inserting a portable storage medium containing said data store into a reader coupled to said individual one of said multiple disparate vendors.

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Claims 14-16 (Cancelled)